



Marine Aircraft Group 26

Safety Bulletin

25 JUNE 2004

No. 44



Photo of the Week... Climbing the Ladder



Here's a couple of contestants trying out for a new reality game show called "Dum-Dums on the Top Rung". The grand prize is a no-frills trip to the hospital ward. Contestant number one is in the lead with his home-made, uh, ladder. Apparently the light bulb above his head went out when he came up with the bright idea for this contraption, and he was trying to replace it.

The second entry is a dynamic duo that may also qualify for one of the many "insane uses of a backhoe bucket" award. I'm not sure what they're doing up there, but it looks like they're preparing for an inverted swan dive.

So who will win in the end? Neither. Odds are with this type of unsafe behavior, they'll eventually end up in either a body cast or a body bag.

What's PMO been up to...

- Failure to Stop: 3
- Driving without a valid drivers license in possession: 2
- Speeding 11-15 over speed limit: 6
- Speeding 1-10 mph over speed limit: 3
- Failure to stop: 3
- DWI first offence: 1
- Failure to Wear Seatbelt: 1



Weekly Flagall 14-20 June

Operational: None

Aviation: None

Non-Operational:

040610 A Cpl from MATSG-21 was participating in a recreational scuba diving class in the Gulf of Thailand, near Samui Island, while on annual leave. The Master Dive Instructor and Cpl began a 50M swim from the dive boat to the dive site. The Master Dive Instructor lost sight of Cpl during the swim. Underwater and surface searches were initiated, without locating Cpl. Search efforts continued until darkness, without success. At 0800 local, on 19 Jun 04, the Commanding Officer determined that conclusive evidence of **death** exists beyond any reasonable doubt or logical possibility that the Cpl may have survived. This determination was made in the absence of remains recovery.

040613 A LCpl from 2d Bn, 6th MAR was a passenger in a vehicle driven by another LCpl from 2d Bn, 6th MAR. They were traveling southbound on interstate 26 to Asheville, NC when the vehicle went around a curve, swerved to miss a stalled car and rolled over. LCpl was in the back seat lying down and was not wearing a seatbelt. The driver was wearing a seatbelt and received no injuries.

040615 A Sgt from RSS Pikeville, KY was operating a GOV, traveling on Highway 23 when he lost control of his vehicle. His GOV struck the rear of a POV, pushing the POV into on coming traffic. The POV was hit head-on by a tractor trailer resulting in the deaths of both occupants. The KY State Patrol is conducting an investigation. In addition a concurrent command investigation was initiated on 15 JUN 04. Local media attention is anticipated. Additional details/circumstances surrounding this matter are unknown at this time. HQMC PAO has been informed of this matter by the MCOC.

040615 A SSgt from MARCORDET, Ft Benning, GA was a passenger, enroute to the Atlanta International Airport on the Columbus Shuttle. An initial investigation finds that the Columbus Shuttle service driver fell asleep at the wheel of the bus and left I-85, striking a telephone pole. SNM suffered lower leg fractures, pelvis fracture, head trauma and fractured ribs. He was taken to the Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, GA for treatment where he is listed in critical condition and on life support. Prognosis is undetermined.

MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY COURSES

DRIVER IMPROVEMENT COURSE

Date: 14 July

Place: AS-212, Room 121A

Time: 0730-1600 (first 25 Marines, so be early)

For planning purposes, we try to schedule the DIC class on the second Wednesday of each month. You will be notified of any change.

Driver's Improvement Class is required for all military personnel under the age of 26 - and must be completed within 90 days of arrival to their first duty station.

AS-212 is located on Bancroft St, next to the Station Headquarters, Pass & ID Building.

REMEDIAL DRIVER IMPROVEMENT COURSE

Date: 25 June, 9 Jul

Place: AS-212, Room 121A

Time: 0730-1130

Personnel who have been identified as exhibiting bad driving habits on and off base, or personnel who have been sentenced by the MCAS Traffic Court Judge to attend a Remedial DIC are required to attend this class.

Motorcycle BASIC RIDER COURSE

Date: 07-08 July

Place: AS-320, Rm. 104

Time: 0800

REQUIREMENTS

Active Duty (Retired military welcome on space available basis)

Own Motorcycle

Motorcycle Learner's Permit or Endorsement

PPE requirements as addressed in MCO 5100.19E

Helmet (SNELL/ANSI/DOT Certified)

Impact/shatter resistant goggles or full faced shield attached to helmet

Reflective vest or brightly colored outer garment (for daytime use)

Hard sole shoes with heels (Leather boots or over the ankle encouraged)

Long sleeve shirt or jacket

Long legged trousers

Full fingered gloves or mittens

Classes are held at MCAS New River, for details and registration call , (910) 449-5440/6143.

Motorcycle EXPERIENCED RIDER COURSE (11 hours)

Offered by Coastal Carolina Community College

Call 910-938-6294 Information and registration.

Course cost \$40.00.

MOTOCROSS SAFETY TRAINING

1/2 day class (\$35.00 per student)

Starting and stopping motorcycle, emergency stopping, swerves, tight turns, jumping techniques, body position.

Full day class (\$70.00 per student)

Same for 1/2 day class, plus motorcycle maintenance up keep, track conditions, safety awareness, more in depth riding techniques.

Classes are held at Half Moon Mx Park 1037 Ramsey Rd. Jacksonville, NC 28546.

Phone 910-938-1346/910-577-5850 Instructor Donnie Davis.

For Your Information

1. MOTORCYCLE OPERATORS MUST COMPLETE A MOTORCYCLE SAFETY TRAINING COURSE APPROVED BY COMNAVSAFECEN FOR NAVY PERSONNEL OR BY CMC(SD) FOR MARINE CORPS PERSONNEL AND MUST DO SO EVEN IF THEY DO NOT PLAN TO REGISTER OR RIDE THEIR MOTORCYCLE ON A DON INSTALLATION. DON COMPONENT COMMANDERS SHALL ESTABLISH POLICY CLEARLY DEFINING A SPECIFIC TIMEFRAME WITHIN WHICH PERSONNEL MUST COMPLETE APPROVED SAFETY TRAINING.

2. MOTORCYCLE OPERATORS MUST BE LICENSED TO OPERATE A MOTORCYCLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE AND LOCAL LAWS. UNLICENSED MOTORCYCLE OPERATORS SEEKING LICENSING MUST COMPLY WITH LOCAL STATE, HOST NATION, OR STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT (SOFA) REQUIREMENTS. ONCE LICENSED, THEY MUST COMPLETE APPROVED SAFETY TRAINING IF NOT ALREADY COMPLETED.

3. MOTORCYCLE OPERATORS MUST ENSURE HEADLIGHTS ARE TURNED ON AT ALL TIMES THE MOTORCYCLE IS IN OPERATION EXCEPT WHERE PROHIBITED BY STATE OR LOCAL LAWS, MILITARY MISSION OR STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENTS.

THE FOLLOWING RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLY TO ALL PERSONS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) WHO OPERATE OR RIDE AS A PASSENGER ON PRIVATELY OWNED MOTORCYCLES ON STREETS OR ROADWAYS, ON OR OFF ANY DON INSTALLATION.

A. HELMETS CERTIFIED TO MEET U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT) STANDARDS ARE MANDATORY. HELMETS MUST BE WORN PROPERLY FASTENED UNDER THE CHIN. "NOVELTY" HELMETS ARE PROHIBITED. CERTIFIED HELMETS ARE READILY IDENTIFIABLE BY A MINIMUM OF ONE INCH THICK FIRM POLYSTYRENE FOAM, WEIGH APPROXIMATELY THREE POUNDS AND HAVE A DOT DECAL ATTACHED AS REFERENCED IN FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD (FMVSS) 218. CONTACT COMNAVSAFECEN POC IF ANY QUESTIONS EXIST CONCERNING DOT CERTIFIED HELMETS VERSUS "NOVELTY" HELMETS.

B. PROPERLY WORN EYE PROTECTION IS MANDATORY. IMPACT-OR SHATTER-RESISTANT GOGGLES OR A FULL-FACE SHIELD (PROPERLY ATTACHED TO HELMET) IS CONSIDERED PROPER EYE PROTECTION. WINDSHIELDS OR FAIRINGS ALONE (WITHOUT GOGGLES OR FACE SHIELD) ARE NOT CONSIDERED PROPER EYE PROTECTION.

C. STURDY FOOTWEAR IS MANDATORY. DURABLE ATHLETIC SHOES COVERING THE ANKLES ARE CONSIDERED STURDY FOOTWEAR. LEATHER BOOTS OR SIMILAR OVER-THE-ANKLE FOOTWEAR (DESIGNED FOR MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS) WHICH PROTECTS THE FEET AND ANKLES AND PROVIDES GOOD GRIP WITH THE ROAD SURFACE IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.

D. LONG-SLEEVED SHIRTS OR JACKETS, LONG-LEGGED TROUSERS AND FULL-FINGERED GLOVES OR MITTENS ARE MANDATORY.

E. BRIGHTLY COLORED OUTER UPPER GARMENTS DURING THE DAY AND REFLECTIVE UPPER GARMENTS DURING THE NIGHT ARE MANDATORY. OUTER GARMENTS MUST BE CLEARLY VISIBLE AND NOT COVERED. MILITARY UNIFORMS ARE NOT CONSIDERED BRIGHTLY COLORED OR REFLECTIVE OUTER GARMENTS. COMNAVSAFECEN STRONGLY RECOMMENDS WEARING SPECIALIZED PROTECTIVE CLOTHING (SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS) WHICH INCORPORATES A HIGH DEGREE OF VISIBILITY AND RETRO-REFLECTIVE PROPERTIES. COMNAVSAFECEN ALSO STRONGLY ENCOURAGES RETRO-REFLECTIVE MATERIAL TO BE INTEGRATED INTO ALL RIDING APPAREL AND PLACED UPON BOTH PROTECTIVE GEAR AND THE MOTORCYCLE. REFLECTIVE VESTS WORN AS AN OUTER GARMENT MEET BOTH BRIGHTLY COLORED AND REFLECTIVE REQUIREMENTS BUT ARE NO LONGER MANDATORY. THE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED IN REF A AND REF B SHOULD BE CONSIDERED THE MINIMUM STANDARDS APPLICABLE. AS ALWAYS, LOCAL COMMANDERS HAVE AUTHORITY TO EXCEED THE MINIMUM SAFETY REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED IN REF A AND REF B.

USMC Orders For WHAT !?

Editorial by : SSgt. Edw. S. Heyward

Once again, happy Friday boys and girls, I can honestly say it's great to be back. For those of you that regularly read this article (yes both of you) you probably noticed that I was gone for the last 2 weeks, well to calm your nerves and answer the question of "where did SSgt Heyward go?" I'll tell you, I was at "Ground Safety School for Marines", which, given my politely sarcastic sense of humor, was quite an experience to say the least. Don't get me wrong, there is a lot of good info in that course, most of which I would say comes from gaining an awareness of programs, orders and directives that most Marines probably didn't know were out there.

Now there are some orders that are absolutely necessary, such as the Asbestos Program, or the Hearing Conservation Program. On the other hand though, there is a lot of other stuff out there, which to me, seems a bit over board. For example, Office Safety, and Vending Machine Safety I mean how many of us have "hip checked" a vending machine in a fit of hunger because the little screw thing didn't turn quite far enough and now our Honey Bun is just hanging there in front of you? I'll admit I have about a hundred times, and I will probably do it a hundred more, but is there really a necessity to put in writing, in a Marine Corps Order, not to rock a 400 pound vending machine, because if it tips and falls on you, you are going to get hurt? At first one would say no, that's common sense.... but then again, it is ground safety for MARINES. Here's a thought, as you walk by the tipped over vending machine at the barracks and see two hands and two feet sticking out, after calling 911 and getting some help, you might want to look in that Marines wallet check out his name, guess who???? Yes Sir, it's THAT GUY.

All of a sudden it all makes sense, we need all this "over the edge" safety stuff, because of him and all his little mentally challenged followers. It is because of him that I had to sit through a class and listen to some OSHA Instructor tell us all to be careful in the office, "because paper can cut you too". I mean has any one ever gotten a paper cut and sat there and gone "WOW! I didn't know paper could do that!" Or better yet if you loose work days due to a paper cut, do you really need to be a Marine? Maybe you should get out and join something a bit more at you level, like the Girl Scouts. It is aggravating for me and I am sure a lot, well both, of you that we coddle to this kind of personality in our beloved Corps, but hey that's what we do, we take care of our own, that is what sets us apart. No matter how aggravating it gets as long as "that guy" wears an Eagle Globe and Anchor, whether or not he has found a way to hurt himself, damage property, or do something else not so smart with it, he is still one of our own, and we must treat him as such.

So this week comes to a close with yet another repetitive closing, watch your people, make sure they are careful and safe both on and off duty, instill in them the thought process that will bring them back to work each and every day, whether you call it ORM, Safety, or "hey don't be stupid", because the last thing we need is to have to hear about Bathroom Safety "because urinal pucks are HAZMAT too." Until next week, you guys stay safe and Have fun.

SSgt Heyward